

March 5, 1984

LB 970

SPEAKER NICHOL: Any other discussion on the committee amendments? If not, the question is, shall the committee amendments be adopted? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of committee amendments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Lundy, are you taking this bill?

SENATOR LUNDY: Senator Scofield will start.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay, very good. Senator Scofield.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Mr. Speaker and members, the purpose of LB 970 would be to extend the authority to offer a master of business program to the state colleges. Little history on the bill, originally with the passage of the role and mission statement in 1978, those offerings were to be done on a cooperative fashion through the University of Nebraska. There is a need in central and western Nebraska for more access to programs than we're currently seeing and for one reason or another, it's, the current system simply isn't working so 970 grew out of a study of that situation and has proposed trying another alternative. 970 is a particularly important bill for central and western Nebraska because there are a good many people out there in place working in their professions or working in a small business who would very much like to participate in some kind of graduate business program and the access simply isn't there at this time and 970 is designed to address that problem. For instance, in my end of the state, if you want a master of business administration program and you happen to live in Scottsbluff or Chadron or Alliance, you would probably go into Colorado or Wyoming to find such training. I have personally spoken to people who work, for instance, for the forest service, small business people who would like further training that simply are not receiving any kind of advanced business training because the program isn't available. 970 addresses that problem and does it at a cost effective level in such a way that it encourages future cooperation among